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FACT SHEET

Health Service Delivery Grant - Partnership Contracts for Health (PCH)

OVERVIEW

The Afghan Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), and the donor community began developing the Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS) in 2002 to address some of the worst measurements of health and disease ever recorded worldwide. The majority of the Afghans had little or no access to the most basic healthcare. The BPHS delineates the services that should be provided by each type of healthcare facility, and specifies the staff, equipment, diagnostic services, and medications required to provide those services. The BPHS framework was the first step to modernize and improve the country's healthcare system. The Essential Package of Hospital Services (EPHS) complements the BPHS and governs hospital care in major urban centers.

USAID's Partnership Contracts for Health (PCH) project supports the MoPH in the delivery of the BPHS and EPHS through a Host Country Contract (HCC). The MoPH was the first Afghan ministry approved in 2008 to receive direct funding (\$236 million over five years) from the U.S. Government. MoPH utilizes the funds from the HCC to contract health non-governmental organizations for the implementation of the BPHS in Badakhshan, Baghlan, Bamyan, Faryab, Ghazni, Hirat, Jawzjan, Kabul, Kandahar, Khost, Paktya, Paktika, and Takhar provinces and the EPHS in five provincial hospitals.

Funding for the BPHS and the EPHS in the remaining 21 provinces is provided by the World Bank and the European Union. The MoPH is credited with unifying the priorities and bringing coherence to the Afghan health system. The BPHS and EPHS have also standardized the classification of health facilities and increased the proportion of the population with access to a health facility.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- **BPHS funding in 13 provinces:** Support health service delivery in 5,500 health posts, 538 health facilities (including 27 district hospitals,170 comprehensive health centers and 262 basic health centers)
- EPHS funding in five provinces: Support tertiary healthcare in five provincial hospitals

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Awarded and managed MOPH contracts worth \$84.3 million for implementation of EPHS and BPHS in 13 provinces for two years.
- Provided PCH facilities BPHS services in 13 provinces, which cover 40 percent of Afghanistan's territory and 50 percent of the total population.
- Supported health facilities where almost 10 million patients visited. Seventy-six percent of these visits were by women and children
- Increased the rate of contraceptive prevalence from 2006 to 2009 (27.9 to 42.4%) in the 13 USAID-supported provinces
- Increased skilled birth attendance from 20 percent in 2006 to 35 percent in 2009 in USAIDsupported facilities